

Message Text

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S E C R E T MOSCOW 9533

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJ: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: RESTRICTED MEETING ON

LTBT COMPLIANCE, JULY 8

TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NUMBER FIFTY-THREE

1. SUMMARY: STOESSEL STATEMENT SET FORTH US POSITION ON LTBT COMPLIANCE QUESTION, CONCLUDING THAT US NOT PREPARED TO DEVELOP PNE AGREEMENT CONTAINING PROVISIONS THAT STATE OR IMPLY THAT AGREEMENT WOULD PERMIT PNE EXCAVATIONS WHICH WOULD CONTRAVENE LTBT. MOROKHOV SAID USSR WOULD CAREFULLY STUDY US VIEWS AND PROVIDE SIMILARLY OFFICIAL, FORMAL STATEMENT IN DUE TIME. HE SAID ADHERENCE TO LTBT IS "ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY CONDITION." WHICH MUST BE IN TEXT OF PNE AGREEMENT, BUT THAT ADHERENCE QUESTION IS INTERNAL MATTER FOR CONDUCTING STATE IN CASE OF PNE. HE UNDERSTOOD STOESSEL TO BE INDICATING DESIRE TO COOPERATE WITH USSR RE PNES AND ASSURED, IN THAT FRAMEWORK, THAT ADEQUATE INFORMATION WOULD BE EXCHANGED FOR VERIFICATION. IN COOPERATION CONTEXT MOROKHOV ALSO GAVE AN EXAMPLE OF HOW USSR WOULD ASSURE LTBT ADHERENCE. STOESSEL CORRECTED MOROKHOV ABOUT MEANING OF STOESSEL'S REMARKS, AND THEN ASKED FOR SOVIET STATEMENT ON PURPOSES AND FORMS OF COOPERATION. MOROKHOV AGREED TO DO THIS AT RESTRICTED MEETING JULY 14. END SUMMARY

2. STOESSEL OPENED RESTRICTED MEETING (STOESSEL/BUCHHEIM/MARTIN/TUNIK WITH MOROKHOV/TIMERBAEV/SAFRONOV/VINOGRADOV)

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WITH FORMAL STATEMENT OF US POSITION ON QUESTION OF LTBT

COMPLIANCE AND PNES (TEXT MOSCOW 9526).

3. MOROKHOV THANKED STOESSEL FOR HIS STATEMENT, WHICH WOULD BE STUDIED IN DETAIL. HE WANTED TO MAKE A POINT NOW ON SUBSTANCE OF THIS QUESTION: SOVIET SIDE HAS EXPRESSED ITS VIEW, TO WHICH IT STILL ADHERES, THAT QUESTION OF ADHERENCE TO AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT IS AN INTERNAL MATTER FOR A STATE. IN PNE CONTEXT, ANY CONCERN ABOUT ADHERENCE TO AN AGREEMENT SUCH AS LTBT IS CONCERN OF SIDE CONDUCTING THE PNE.

4. MOROKHOV SAID HE WAS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR WHAT STOESSEL HAD IN MIND IN MENTIONING LARGE EXCAVATION EXPLOSIONS; WHEN SOVIET SIDE CONSIDERED COMPLIANCE WITH THE LTBT, IT HAD IN MIND EXPLOSIONS OF ANY SIZE. HE ASSERTED THAT ANY US CONCERN IS REALLY UNFOUNDED INsofar AS ONE TALKS OF POSSIBILITY OF VIOLATIONS IN CONDUCTING LARGE EXCAVATION EXPLOSIONS. ALSO, THE US, IN REFERRING TO THEM, MUST ALSO CONSIDER CONTAINED EXPLOSIONS AS WELL. MOROKHOV NOTED THAT US IS EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT EXCAVATION EXPLOSIONS VIOLATING LTBT, WHEREAS US COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT WEAPON TESTS HAVE BEEN DIRECTED TOWARD EXPLOSIONS WHICH WERE ALL, OR NEARLY ALL, CONTAINED EXPLOSIONS.

5. SINCE THE US HAS STRESSED ITS CONCERN ON LTBT COMPLIANCE, AND MADE AN OFFICIAL, FORMAL STATEMENT OF US VIEWS, THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD AIM TO REPLY IN AN EQUALLY FORMAL WAY.

6. MOROKHOV WENT ON TO ASSERT THAT ADHERENCE TO THE LTBT IS "AN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY CONDITION" IN CONTEXT OF A PNE AGREEMENT, AND USSR BELIEVES THAT ANY PNE TEXT MUST STATE PRECISELY THAT.

7. MOROKHOV CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT HE HAD UNDERSTOOD STOESSEL TO SUGGEST A US DESIRE TO COOPERATE WITH USSR IN SUCH FORMS OF ACTIVITIES AS EXCAVATION EXPLOSIONS. HE WAS DELIGHTED AT THIS, AND GAVE ASSURANCES THAT NECESSARY AMOUNT OF INFORMATION FOR VERIFICATION WOULD BE EXCHANGED IN THAT FRAMEWORK.

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8. STOESSEL ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION ON THIS POINT, SAYING THAT HE HAD UNDERSTOOD MOROKHOV TO SAY THAT SOVIET SIDE WOULD BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE TO US SIDE INFORMATION ON HOW USSR WOULD CONDUCT EXCAVATION PNES IN COMPLIANCE WITH LTBT. MOROKHOV SAID THAT WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF COOPERATION USSR IS READY TO PROVIDE AND EXCHANGE SUCH INFORMATION.

9. MOROKHOV WENT ON TO SAY THAT "OFF-THE-RECORD," HE

WOULD PROVIDE ONE EXAMPLE AS AN ILLUSTRATION OF HOW A COUNTRY CONDUCTING A PNE COULD ENSURE ADHERENCE TO LTBT. HE SAID THAT IN CONDUCTING EXCAVATION EXPLOSIONS, ONE CASE WOULD BE WHERE ALL INERT GASES MIGHT REMAIN UNDER THE SURFACE; IN ANOTHER CASE, THERE MIGHT BE RADIOACTIVITY RELEASED INTO THE ATMOSPHERE. ADDITIONALLY, THERE MIGHT BE AN IN-BETWEEN CASE. PERHAPS THE BEST EXAMPLE OF THE LATTER IS AN EXPLOSION AT THE TOP OF A SLOPE, WHERE THE RADIOACTIVITY IS CONTAINED BUT THE RESULT IS FIMLAR IN APPEARANCE TO AN EXCAVATION EXPLOSION. (TIMERBAEV DREW A ROUGHT SKETCH TO ILLUSTRATE THIS.) MOROKHOV NOTED THAT IN SUCH INSTANCES, "OF COURSE", THERE WOULD BE SOME "SACRIFICE IN YIELD." MOROKHOV SAID THIS IS SIMPLEST EXAMPLE TO SHOW HOW ONE MIGHT ASSURE ADHERENCE TO LTBT, "BUT THERE ARE OTHER WAYS IN WHICH ONE CAN ACHIEVE THE SAME PURPOSE." MORKHOV SAID HE PERSONALLY DID NOT SEE ANY REASON FOR CONCERN IN THIS AREA, BUT SOVIET SIDE WOULD CAREFULLY STUDY US STATEMENT AND MAKE A REPLY IN DUE COURSE.

10. STOESSEL EXPRESSED THANKS FOR MOROKHOV'S COMMENTS, UNDERScoreD AGAIN IMPORTANCE US ATTACHES TO THIS QUESTION, AND SAID US LOOKED FORWARD TO HEARING USSR COMMENTS IN REPLY. STOESSEL EMPHASIZED NEED FOR BOTH SIDES (SINCE WE ARE CONSIDERING A JOINT AGREEMENT ON PNES) TO UNDERSTAND COMMITMENTS THAT WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN AND HOW THEY WOULD BE FULFILLED. THIS IS WHAT LEADS TO US CONCERNS, AND FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THIS QUESTION USEFUL AND NECESSARY.

11. ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, STOESSEL RECALLED THAT CHAIRMEN HAD AGREED THAT QUESTION OF COOPERATION IS ANOTHER MATTER TO BE HANDLED IN RESTRICTED MEETINGS. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR US TO HAVE ANY COMMENTS THAT MOROKHOV COULD MAKE ON HOW COOPERATION MIGHT BE FORMULATED AND WHAT ITS PURPOSES WOULD
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BE. MOROKHOV, RECALLING THAT HE HAD STRESSED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THAT QUESTION OF COOPERATION IS CLOSELY CONNECTED WITH ARTICLE III OF THE TTBT, SAID HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO SET FORTH SOVIET VIEWS ANY TIME, AND SUGGESTED RESTRICTED MEETING JULY 14 FOR THIS PURPOSE. THIS WAS AGREED, AND TIME OF MEETING SET FOR 11 A.M.
STOESSEL

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